

**PON-08-001 Questions Received by Phone and Email
November 4, 2008
Questions & Answers**

Q. Will the Energy Commission be posting the Pre-proposal Workshop participants on the website?

A. Yes. Known participants to the Pre-proposal Workshop will be posted, along with the questions and answers, on December 3, 2008.

Q. Is the solicitation targeting a specific market segment for a DER/CCHP system (e.g. residential, commercial, big box retail)?

A. No.

Q. How is "mobile" being defined? For example, is the solicitation specifically targeting engine technology that meets California on-road regulations, such as gasoline powered automobiles and heavy duty diesel, or does technology from the mobile, non-road sector qualify?

A. The solicitation is open to both on-road and non-road mobile engine technologies.

Q. In the PON-08-001 solicitation, it indicates answers to the first set of questions would be posted on the Energy Commission's website. I could not find the link, so would you direct me to the proper location?

A. PON-08-001 did not receive any questions by the October 17, 2008 deadline.

Q. What are the targets for the in-cell demonstration?

A. Technical targets are incorporated into Scoring Criteria number 3. The Commercialization Readiness Plan (required as a task in the Work Statement) requires the project to identify public benefits resulting from commercialization of the product(s) based on circumstances at that time, including technical advances made in the project, technical developments made by others outside the project, and market and regulatory conditions. Applicants are expected to set goals and objectives for their proposal overall and to set goals for each technical task. The minimum requirements are set by the California Air Resources Board's Guidelines for criteria pollutant emissions, which also establishes a minimum CHP system efficiency of 60%.

Q. Is the program opportunity open to turbines and microturbines?

A. The solicitation is for reciprocating engine related technology advancements.

Q. The Program Opportunity Notice states that engines using alternative fuels (including biofuels) can be funded. Does that include development of biofuels?

A. Engine system development using biofuels is allowed under the funding source information on page 3 of the Program Opportunity Notice. One of the bullets under Scoring Criteria number 3 states "the advancements proposed must be in engine

systems, not in fuel processing, conditioning, or production.” The emphasis of Scoring Criteria number 3 is the advancement of engine systems.

Q. Would a project for a hydrogen-fueled internal combustion engine qualify for submission?

A. Yes.

Q. Is a project with a provisional patent application considered to be confidential information?

A. A bidder can generally describe the topic of a provisional application in their proposal without disclosing confidential information. If however, the bidder wishes to include the contents of their provisional application in the bid, the bid does contain confidential information and should be rejected. This assumes that the provisional application has not already expired.

Q. I am working with a car company that has an engine that does not meet California Air Resources Board's 2007 (emission standards) but we identified a sequence of tasks to implement in order to achieve this goal. 1) Can we apply and 2) can we include these activities as part of the grant?

A. 1) Yes. 2) Scoring Criteria number 1 includes the following as a bullet. Evidence – including specifications, data, and calculations – that the system has, or will have by a specified date, emissions that satisfy the Air Resources Board's 2007 emissions standards for Distributed Generation systems (see Attachment B). Alternatively, describe why the system is exempt from these standards.

Q. Can work related to manufacturing supply chain and customer support be included as tasks for the proposal?

A. The Program Opportunity Notice does not prohibit the activity. Profit may not be charged on any activity associated with the project.

Q. If we are licensing intellectual property(ies) from a third party that is required in order to develop a commercially valuable combined heat and power product based on a reciprocating engine, can we include this expense in the proposal? If no, can this be considered part of the match fund?

A. Energy Commission funds cannot pay for intellectual property that must be held confidential. So long as the expense meets all other requirements for match funding (timing of expenditures, amounts, purpose, reasonableness, proportion related to the award and the like), it may be considered part of the Recipients match share. Specifics of the match share proposal must be described in the proposal so it can be evaluated.

Q. You indicated that the project does not have to be done in California. What is the percentage of tasks that can be done outside the USA?

A. There is new legislation that asks us to provide a preference for California based entities. An addendum will be issued providing the details of the preference.

Q. If the company has a subsidiary outside the USA and that entity will do some of the work, is that considered subcontracting?

A. Bidders can propose a team of their choosing. Anyone contracting to do work for the bidder (or supplying equipment or materials such as a vendor) under this award is a sub contractor.

Q. Can staff meet separately with a potential proposer?

A. No.

Q. Does a cogeneration project for food processing plants qualify for this solicitation?

A. You have to review the Program Opportunity Notice to determine whether your project meets the requirements.

Q. Do external combustion reciprocating engines qualify?

A. Yes.